

BIG SANDY NEWS.

Aut inveniam viam, aut faciam.

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M. F. CONLEY, Publisher

OIL LEASES

Still Being Sought in Lawrence County.

It is Expected That Drilling Will Be Resumed Within a Short Time.

There is nothing new in the oil situation. The well on Three Mile was struck Friday for the second time. The hole was plugged by the explosion for a distance of about 35 feet and the work of cleaning this out was not completed until Tuesday evening. Pumping will be resumed as soon as possible and it is thought the production will be increased by the last shot.

The nitro-glycerine was brought here from St. Albans, W. Va., in a spring wagon drawn by two horses. The quantity used is said to have been one hundred quarts.

Messrs. Hunter and Smith went to Pittsburgh Sunday for a trip of three or four days. It is said that they will start two new wells soon after their return.

Reports are current that other contracts for drilling are being negotiated and there are strong reasons for believing that the next few weeks will see several new wells started.

A number of strangers are taking leases in this county. Our people should try to distinguish between those foreigners who will develop the property and those who simply want to tie up their lands for a song and hold them until other people develop the surrounding territory. Development is what the people want. The foreigner who takes a ten year lease to hold without drilling is preventing development rather than encouraging it. He is a parasite who will get what rightfully belongs to you if somebody else risks the money to develop the hidden resources. Encourage the people who will have wells drilled, but fight shy of the fellows who make a business of following up new oil fields and simply tie up property.

Dr. J. B. Bartram Married.

A wedding that will come as a surprise to their host of friends is that of Dr. J. B. Bartram, of this city, and Miss Lillian Maurer, of Covington, Ky. The marriage was solemnized Sunday evening at 7 o'clock at the parsonage of Rev. Mr. Blackburn, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Covington.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Maurer, who formerly lived in this city, she being born and reared here, and educated in the public schools. When here she was a great worker in the Presbyterian Sunday School and the different church societies. She is an exceptionally bright young woman, and her scores of friends here will be glad to welcome her return to Ashland.—Independent.

No "National Holiday."

Fourth of July, Decoration and Christmas days are often persistently referred to as "national holidays." There is no such thing as a national holiday, not even Christmas Day having attained that distinction. Many of the states have legal holidays through their legislatures, but Congress has never declared any day a national holiday. Custom, and custom only, makes national holidays out of Christmas Day, Decoration Day, the Fourth of July—or indeed of any day so celebrated.

Two Killed and One Injured.

Boyd Hatfield, a well-known school teacher of Pike county, and James Hopkins, of Beaver, Floyd county, were run down and killed by a Norfolk and Western railroad locomotive at Matewan, W. Va. Casseus M. Whitl, a former resident of Pikeville, was seriously injured. The three men were walking along the track when the accident occurred.

Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan Entertain.

A very delightful six o'clock dinner was given by Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Sullivan Tuesday evening. It was in honor of their guests and relatives, Rev. and Mrs. F. F. Shannon, of Brooklyn. The occasion was doubly enjoyable, being the thirteenth birthday of Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan's daughter, Lucile. The tablecover scheme was pink and white. At each cover was a boutonniere of pink and white sweet peas. The pink birthday cake with its thirteen lighted candles occupied the place of honor on the beautifully appointed table. Their thirteen guests, devoid of superstition, sat down and discussed all the delicacies of the season without fear and trembling of the result.

Before the last course Mrs. Sullivan introduced a pleasant guessing contest. After dinner the time sped merrily with music and conversation. The parting hour came all too soon. The guests were Rev. and Mrs. Shannon, Frederick, Junior, Prof. and Mrs. Edward M. Kenison, Mr. and Mrs. F. V. O. Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Shannon, Mrs. Alex Lackey and Kathleen Lackey.

Critical Illness of James W. Hughes.

At an early hour yesterday morning A. M. Hughes, of this city, received a message that his father, Mr. James W. Hughes, of Huntington, was in a critical condition, and that a Cincinnati surgeon would perform a serious operation for his relief. Mr. Hughes and wife left on an early train for the bedside of their relative, who is quite advanced in years and who has been very sick several weeks.

A KICK FROM PIKE.

Working of the New School Law as Operated in Pike County.

Hellier, Ky.

We hear a great deal said about Whirlwind Campaigns and Educational Rallies and we have been scanning the local newspapers to see if everybody was satisfied with the mode of selecting teachers under the new school law, but we have seen nothing concerning the matter. We suppose they were either satisfied or so badly disgusted that they could not mention it; but if you will allow me a little space in your valuable paper I will tell you how we did it on the upper Big Sandy, in the shadow of the majestic Cumberland mountain.

When the hour arrived to select the teachers for the eighteen schools in a certain educational division, the chairman invited all visitors to be excluded from the meeting, which was done. It is said that by persistent lobbying by the chairman and a little ring the consent of a majority of the trustees had been secured to an agreement to elect the first applicant for each school. So the favorites were slated to appear first on the roll of applicants. When the visitors were excluded the august chairman announced that there would be no discussions allowed, but the board would pass on the applicants as they appeared on the roll. He then called a certain district and announced the names of the applicants, whereupon the trustee of that district being present with a petition of the patrons of the district for a teacher that was not in the ring, arose to present the petition of the patrons for their teacher. The chairman ordered him to sit down or he would have him arrested; said, as chairman, he demanded the order of the house, and ordered a constable who was also a ring trustee to arrest the trustee if he did not sit down; so he was forced to sit down and let a teacher be selected that was not the choice of the trustee nor the district. And this is called advancement in education. The only objection to the teacher that was ever brought was that he was no a Pike county man. Now, we are native Kentuckians, and also native Big Sandians, and it makes us hot under the collar when some fellow calls us long-haired mountain feedists, bloody mountaineers, cut throats, and ignoramuses, but, in the name of all that is good and noble, is it any wonder they call us names?

A Mountaineer.

Morgan County Girls Prosper in West.

The friends of Mrs. Nettie McGuire and her sister, Miss Annie Wheeler, will be glad to hear of their prosperity in the West. They first went to Bartlesville, Okla., where they bought a lot and built a house. But about a year ago Miss Annie went to Montana, and, fifteen miles from Billings, a town of 20,000 inhabitants, took up a quarter section of land. About a week ago a town site company bought half of her 160 acres for \$5,000 cash and six choice lots when the town is laid off. On the eighty acres left her there is a lake and the railroad running through her land has a water tank on the place, which is presumably fed by the lake. Meantime Miss Annie is employed as a stenographer and typewriter at a salary of \$80 per month, going to and from her home on the railroad. Mrs. James McGuire, her sister, above mentioned, has 160 acres adjoining. And the home they jointly own in Oklahoma is rented out at \$20 per month. They write that there is still a lot of land open to homesteaders in the same section, and the price is \$1.25 per acre after fourteen months continuous residence.—Hazel Green Herald.

A New One Cent Piece.

The new one cent piece bearing the head of President Lincoln will be issued by the Treasury Department from the mint at Philadelphia beginning on August 1st next. By that time it is expected a sufficient supply of these coins will have been accumulated to meet all demands.

No other coin of the United States is so appropriately honored. The one cent piece is the coin of the masses, the great common people. Lincoln used to say that God must have loved the poor people, he made so many of them. The martyred President loved them, also, and could he speak he would say he was honored by having his likeness on this lowly bit of money.

High-Priced Colt.

Some people said years ago, when electricity was first put to use for street car propulsion, that mules would be worth nothing, but they are higher than ever. They also said that the bicycle and the automobile would put horses in the barn lot, but they are growing in value year by year. As pretty good proof of this we are told that a few days ago E. T. Burgess, of Fleming county, sold to C. W. Robertson a suckling horse colt, by King Discord, for \$1,000.

Formerly of Prestonsburg.

Catlettsburg, Ky., July 8.—News has been received here that Everett Robinson, aged twenty-one years, formerly of this place, but now in Aberdeen, Wash., while despondent over a love affair, blew out his brains. Young Robinson was quite prominent here, and was reared at Prestonsburg, Ky.

His father, Garfield Robinson, resided there. Robinson left here a year ago to take up work in Washington, and was living with an uncle.

Lookout For Them.

On July 28th, the astronomers say, there will occur an unusually brilliant shower of shooting stars. These will dart outward in all directions from a point a little southeast of a certain star and move slowly over the sky. They can be best observed after midnight.

The Sprouse Case.

M. S. Burns and W. D. O'Neal, attorneys in the Sprouse case, have been in Grayson all week attending the trial. Judge Halbert, of Lewis county, had been designated special judge to try this important case, but Judge Hannah found he would have time to try it, and as he shirks no duty he is presiding over the trial.

Educated at Our College.

Miss Riffe, who, with her parents, has just moved here from Louisa, has been elected teacher for the Rush Public Schools. Miss Riffe has a college education.—Independent.

LARGE AUDIENCES

Heard Sermon of Rev. F. F. Shannon.

Brooklyn Minister, Native of Louisa, Preached Here Last Sunday, Morning and Evening.

According to announcement made in this paper last week the Rev. Fred Shannon, of Grace Methodist Church, Brooklyn, preached on last Sunday morning in the M. E. Church South, this city.

The people of this town, irrespective of creed or condition or color, are glad when Mr. Shannon comes back to the place of his nativity. They have not forgotten "Fred," and the boy who grew up among them to become noted among the big preachers in a big city has not forgotten them. And when he said to that big audience on that beautiful Sunday morning that he would rather see them than any other audience he ever looked into the face of, we believed him. The pleasure was surely mutual.

Mr. Shannon's New Testament lesson was the first fourteen verses of the first chapter of John. It was a fitting prelude to the sweet harmonies developed by the sermon which followed, based upon the 6th verse of the 12nd, the grand Messianic, saying: "He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass."

Several things are essential to the proper presentation of Mr. Shannon's splendid sermon. First it should be given in all its fullness of beautiful rhetoric, its perfect metaphor, its imagery; and with these it must have the speaker's earnest, pleading delivery.

God in the person of Christ would come in three ways: would come down, come like rain, and like rain on mown grass.

In the elaboration of these several ways Mr. Shannon was exceedingly apt and successful. He seems to have used all his faculties, all his senses, in his various wanderings up and down the world. Nothing has escaped his observation. People, paintings, statuary, nature—all are his tools, and he uses them like the master craftsman that he is. Sunday morning he spoke of a splendid silver egg he had seen in a treasury of art in a foreign city. Touch a spring in the argent shell and you beheld a golden yolk. Again press a secret clasp, and lo, a beautiful bird appeared. And once more touch a spring in this beautiful bird, and a flood of celestial song entranced the hearer. It was a striking illustration of the point he sought to make.

God sometimes comes down in torrents. Witness the thirty years' war and Waterloo. Blood deluged the land, but, although we knew it not, God was behind it all, and the world was the better for the rain. The French Revolution was a bloody era, but after it was gone the sky was clearer, the air sweeter.

Ed. Field, New York multimillionaire, at one time could sit high up in one of his city sky-scrapers and signal to his yacht in the bay. His money vanished and he sank to lowest depths. He now is clerk in a hotel for bums and down-and-outs. But he is happy. The gentle shower, like "rain upon the mown grass," came down into his heart.

Mr. Shannon told us about Mrs. Palmer's three rules for being happy: Each day memorize something good; see something good, and see something beautiful. The observation of these three things would surely bring happiness.

Mr. Shannon's sermon was replete with illustrative incident all striking, some touching and pathetic. The relation of the incident in connection with the fire in Cleveland in which so many children lost their lives brought tears to the eyes of many. The sermon occupied about forty minutes in its delivery and was listened to by the large audience with rapt attention.

This paragraph, we feel sure, will not be copied by our down-the-river contemporaries, changed a little as to locality and used without credit.

Pertinent Decision.

So much is being said just now about mineral and gas, and about the rights of lessors and lessees that this recent decision of the Court of Appeals will be read with interest by many:

Central Kentucky Natural Gas Co. vs. Stevens, etc.—Filed June 18, 1909. (To be reported.) Appeal from the Montgomery Circuit Court. Opinion of the Court by Judge Hobson, reversing.

First—Jurisdiction—Title to Land—Not Action for Recovery of Real Estate—Provision of the Code.—The question here is to whom certain royalties belong, and while its determination will involve the title to land, every action in which title is involved is not an action for the recovery of real estate within the meaning of Section 62, Civil Code. The thing in controversy is not only the amount now due, but the right to the royalty, and this court has jurisdiction of the appeal.

Big Timber Deal.

A big timber deal was closed at Tazewell, Va., between the Yellow Poplar Lumber Company and C. L. Ritter, of Huntington, which may give a bearing on the development and progress of the counties of Buchanan and Tazewell. Through W. L. Dennis, of Grundy, Buchanan county, Mr. Ritter has purchased about 20,000 acres of timber land, and has purchased from the Yellow Poplar Lumber Company their entire holdings in Buchanan county, including all the machinery, timber rights, etc. The total consideration is said to be \$200,000.

NEW RULING

Of Treasurer's Office Concerning the Payment of State Warrants.

Circuit Clerks have received the following letter from State Treasurer Farley, which will be of interest to all parties holding State warrants: Notice to Holders of State Warrants.

"This office is informed that in the future the Auditor will discontinue sending Treasurer's checks for amounts due claimants, but instead will mail his warrant to claimants, thereby causing them the necessity and danger of misdirection and possible loss in the mails, by retaining the warrants to the Treasurer for payment.

"As a matter of safety and convenience to those receiving warrants, as well as to this office, I would suggest and advise that all warrants sent out by the Auditor be deposited with your local bank for collection.

"It will probably not be possible to pay all warrants just yet, but those that we are unable to pay will be returned with checks for those that are paid.

"If the above suggestions are complied with, payments can be made with more promptness and possible loss through the mails reduced to a minimum. Very truly,

"E. FARLEY, Treasurer."

"Poke."

The Harlan Enterprise has been asked for a definition of the word poke. Its reply covers the ground.

Poke is a weed that grows in rich soil and makes a large soft stalk. Poke is a small sack or bag in which the women store away beans and other seeds for the next year's planting. Poke is a kind of action that if one gets addicted to and then lets their tongue get to "wagging" he will get the true meaning by some one poking a bar or two of lead into his carcass.

In Camp.

The boys of the Rev. G. C. Hutchinson's Sunday School class have gone into camp for a couple of weeks on the river between Torchlight and Chapman. They have tents, boats, etc., and are doing well fishing, hunting and bathing.

The following lads compose the party: Jesse Roberts, Chris Sullivan, John Wade, James Rice, Earl and Clifford Justice, John Kennedy, James Hughes, Gus Snyder and Neil Conley.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Vinson Entertain.

The lovely home of the Robert Vinsons never looked better than when, ablaze with light and radiant with handsome women, it entertained two dozen or more devotees of whist on last Friday evening. Three spacious rooms were required for the players, but it seemed, because of the well arranged apartments, that all were in one large, brilliantly lighted salon. Nothing which the hospitable hosts could do for the enjoyment of their guests was omitted, and at an early hour (of next day) good nights were reluctantly spoken, entertainers and the entertained alike happy because of the perfect enjoyment of the evening.

The out-of-town guests were Mrs. E. F. Thomas and Mrs. Mary Hazelton, of Cincinnati, Mrs. Berger, of Pittsburgh, and Mrs. J. J. Johnson, of Pikeville.

Walbridge.

Wm. O'Brien and family spent Sunday with Alex Stump and wife. Logan Haws and wife, of Portsmouth, were guests of relatives here last week.

School opened at Summit Monday with Mrs. Emma Sammons teacher. School will begin here the 19th with Kizzie See teacher.

Samuel Salyer, of Illinois, visited his daughter, Mrs. Fox, recently. David See has returned from Irvin where he has been at work on the locks.

Mrs. G. B. Carter was down from Torchlight Saturday.

Mrs. Martha Thompson will soon return to Ironton after a visit to relatives here.

Garred Peters had a family reunion Sunday, it being his birthday. Frank Dobbins was here last week representing a hat firm.

Mrs. A. O. Scott and Mrs. Kinsey, of Williamson, are here on an extended visit to their father, Wm. O'Brien.

Mack Kennedy is very low and is expected to live but a short while. Robert Akers was here recently selling fruit trees.

Born, to Wm. W. See and wife on the 6th, a fine boy.

Mrs. M. W. Chambers visited at G. L. Burk's Sunday.

We are all very much pleased with the oil prospects. Our place is already the scene of much activity and we predict a great success in the business. Pat.

Whites Creek.

Bro. R. F. Nunley filled his regular appointment at Union Chapel last Sunday evening with a large crowd in attendance.

James P. Lewis, a former resident of this place but now of Portsmouth, was visiting relatives on this creek Sunday.

George Queen was a visitor on Rove Creek Saturday and Sunday.

Floyd Lewis, from the W. Va. coal field, was visiting friends at this place Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lefe Queen spent last Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Reus.

Alvin Cornwell, of Portsmouth, is the guest of friends here this week. Mrs. J. L. Bowling has returned from a two months' visit in Oklahoma.

Mont Damron and Henry Hale were on Bear Creek Sunday.

Rev. John West will preach Mrs. Damron's funeral at Union Chapel Sunday, July 18th.

Talbert Arthur and Miss Sadie Queen attended church here Sunday. Mrs. Jack Arthur is on the sick list.

Jack Nickells will go to Portsmouth this week, where he will try to secure a position.

Gavet Wilcox was on our creek Saturday.

There will be a ball game at Portsmouth Saturday, Whites Creek vs. Culbertson. Jack.

"Clean Loaf Bread."

The Louisa Bakery has for its trade mark "Clean Loaf Bread" and the firm lives up to its mark. Unless otherwise desired by the customer the bread is delivered in wrappers. Each loaf is wrapped in clean white paper, especially prepared not only to keep the bread clean but to prevent it from drying out. This is an enterprise that should be heartily supported by our people and we are glad to see that it is being liberally patronized.